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FM AMEMBASSY TALLINN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0195
INFO EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 0040
RUEHVL/AMEMBASSY VILNIUS 0049

Friday, 30 October 2009, 13:47

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 TALLINN 000317

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EUR/UMB JOE WANG

VILNIUS FOR MINSK MICHAEL SCANLON

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA

AMEMBASSY ASTANA PASS TO USOFFICE ALMATY

AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL LEIPZIG

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PASS TO AMEMBASSY PODGORICA

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PASS TO AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PASS TO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG

EO 12958 DECL: 2019/10/30

TAGS PREL, PGOV, BO, EN

SUBJECT: Estonian FM Visit to Belarus; Lukashenko Goes On (and On and On)

CLASSIFIED BY: Marc Nordberg, Political/Economic Chief; REASON: 1.4(B), (D)

Classified by CDA Karen Decker for Reasons 1.4 B and D.

1. (C) Summary: Pol Chief met with MFA Desk Officer for Belarus, Moldova, and Central Asia Risto Roos on October 28 for a read-out of Foreign
2. (SBU) On October 20 - 21, FM Paet led a delegation of 30 Estonian business people (Estonia's largest ever business delegation) to Minsk. W
Lukashenko: "Estonia is Not Our Enemy," But Maybe Russia Is

13. (C) Civil Society: Paet's meeting with Lukashenko was scheduled to last 30 minutes, but went 90 minutes and only ended when Paet said he ne
14. (C) NATO: Lukashenko told Paet that, despite Estonia's membership in the EU and NATO, he did not consider Estonia to be an enemy. Lukashenk
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15. (C) EU: Lukashenko also told Paet stated that the EU's "ridiculous sanctions" had not weakened Belarus. In fact, Lukashenko told Paet he ha

16. (C) Iraq, Iran and Venezuela: Lukashenko claimed to Paet that Saddam Hussein called him in early 2003, asking Lukashenko to negotiate peace

17. (C) Russia: Roos told us that Lukashenko maintained an anti-Russian tone throughout the meeting. Lukashenko said he hoped Finland, Sweden &
Beleaguered Civil Society

18. (C) Paet met with NGO and political party representatives, who said the level of repression they face has worsened over the past six months
FM Martynov Defends Status Quo

19. (C) Paet presented the civil society complaints to FM Martynov, who argued that Belarus was reforming, but that reform takes time.
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Martynov claimed there was a debate within the GOB between a faction that is pro-reform, and others that want to halt reforms since the EU has
10. (C) Comment: The GOE is an active supporter of democratic reform in Belarus, even if Belarus is not one of Estonia's main foreign policy p